

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 (Cancelled)

Claim 13. (Original) An ultrasonic diagnostic device that generates and displays an ultrasound image containing an image of an object which is subject to examination in accordance with reflection of ultrasound, the ultrasonic diagnostic device comprising:

a signal receiving unit operable to receive an electrocardiogram (ECG) signal related to the object;

an end-time predicting unit operable to predict at least one of an end-diastolic time and an end-systolic time from at least one of a past end-diastolic time and a past end-systolic time that the end-time predicting unit has specified using the received ECG signal; and

an image generating unit operable to generate an ultrasound image at the at least one of the predicted times.

Claim 14. (Original) The ultrasonic diagnostic device of Claim 13,

wherein the end-time predicting unit predicts either the end-diastolic time or the end-systolic time from either a plurality of past end-diastolic times or a plurality of past end-systolic times, each of which the end-time predicting unit has specified by: (a) detecting a first end-time and a second end-time, wherein at the first end-time, a value of the ECG signal changes from a local negative maximum to zero, and wherein at the second end-time, a value of the ECG signal changes from a plus value to zero; and (b) regarding the detected first and second end-times as a past end-diastolic time and a past end-systolic time, respectively.

Claims 15-16 (Cancelled)

Claim 17. (Original) An image processing device that generates and displays an ultrasound image containing an image of an object which is subject to examination in accordance with reflection of ultrasound, the image processing device comprising:

a signal receiving unit operable to receive an electrocardiogram (ECG) signal related to the object;

an end-time predicting unit operable to predict at least one of an end-diastolic time and an end-systolic time from at least one of a past end-diastolic time and a past end-systolic time that the end-time predicting unit has specified using the received ECG signal; and

an image generating unit operable to generate an ultrasound image at the at least one of the predicted times.

Claims 18-20 (Cancelled)

Claim 21. (Original) A program to have a computer function as an ultrasonic diagnostic device that generates and displays an ultrasound image containing an image of an object which is subject to examination in accordance with reflection of ultrasound, the program including:

a signal receiving step for receiving an electrocardiogram (ECG) signal related to the object;

an end-time predicting step for predicting at least one of an end-diastolic time and an end-systolic time from at least one of a past end-diastolic time and a past end-systolic time that have been specified in the end-time predicting step by using the received ECG signal; and

an image generating step for generating an ultrasound image at the at least one of the predicted times.

Claim 22. (Cancelled)